

NSF Workshop on Big Data Security and Privacy Report Summary

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- Workshop Coordinator
 - Rhonda Walls, University of Texas at Dallas
- Workshop Report Link
 - <http://csi.utdallas.edu/events/NSF/NSF-workhop-Big-Data-SP-FINAL.pdf>

Organization of the Workshop

- Workshop held at the University of Texas at Dallas, September 16 and 17, 2014
- Invited keynote speakers and participants from interdisciplinary research communities
 - Computer and Data Scientists, Cyber Security Researchers, Social Scientists, Application Specialists from Natural Sciences
 - Academia, Industry and Government
- Two Major Objectives
 - Security and Privacy Issues for Big Data Applications
 - Big Data Management and Analytics Techniques for Cyber Security Applications
- Keynote Presentations, Position Paper Presentation and Two Break out sessions to address the major objectives; Breakout session discussion reports
- Submitted to the National Privacy Research Strategy, October 16, 2014
- Workshop Report published on February 9, 2015

Big Data Management and Analytics: Pros and Cons

- Due to technological advances and novel applications it is possible to capture, process, analyze large amounts of data for security tasks
- Such tasks include user authentication, access control, anomaly detection, user monitoring, and protection from insider threat
- By analyzing and integrating data collected on the Web, one can identify connections and relationships among individuals that may in turn help with homeland protection, disease outbreaks,
- Collected data, even if anonymized by removing identifiers, when linked with other data, may lead to re-identifying the individuals
- Security tasks such as authentication and access control may require detailed information about users (e.g., multi-factor authentication)
- This information if misused or stolen can lead to privacy breaches.

Examples of Privacy Enhancing Techniques

- Numerous privacy-enhancing techniques have been proposed ranging from cryptographic techniques to data anonymization
- Such techniques either do not scale for large datasets and/or do not address the problem of reconciling security with privacy.
- Few approaches focus on efficiently reconciling security with privacy; these can be grouped as follows:

Privacy-preserving data/record matching

Privacy-preserving collaborative data mining

Privacy-preserving biometric authentication

Privacy Preserving Record Matching

- Record matching is performed across different data sources with the aim of identifying shared common information
- Matching records from different data sources may conflict with privacy requirements of the individual data sources.
- Recent approaches include data transformation and mapping into vector spaces, and combination of secure multiparty computation and data sanitization (e.g., differential privacy and k-anonymity)
- Need privacy-preserving techniques suitable for complex matching problems (e.g., semantic matching).
- Need security models and definitions supporting security analysis and proofs for solutions combining different security techniques

Privacy Preserving Collaborative Data Mining

- Data mining is typically performed on centralized data warehouses
- Centrally collecting data poses privacy and confidentiality concerns multi-organizational data
- Distributed collaborative approaches where organizations retain their own datasets and cooperate to learn the global data mining results
- These techniques are still inefficient
- Need novel approaches based on cloud computing and new cryptographic primitives

Privacy Preserving Biometrics Authentication

Record biometrics templates of enrolled users and match with the templates provided by users during authentication

Templates of user biometrics represent sensitive information

Recent approaches address the problem by using a combination of perceptual hashing techniques, classification techniques, and zero-knowledge proof of knowledge (ZKPK) protocols

Need research to reduce the false rejection rates

Need approaches for authentication and based on the recent homomorphic encryption techniques

Multi-Objective Optimization Framework for Data Privacy

- Attempts at coming up with a privacy solution/definition that can address different scenarios; but there is no one size fits all solution for data privacy.
- Data Utility needs to be included
 - For privacy-preserving classification models, 0/1 loss could be a good utility measure.
 - For privacy-preserving record linkage, F1 score could be a better choice.
- Need to understand the right definitions of privacy risk
 - For data sharing, probability of re-identification given certain background knowledge may be a right measure of privacy risk.
 - $\epsilon=1$ may be an appropriate risk for differentially private data mining models.
- The computational, storage and communication costs of the protocols need to be considered.

Multi-Objective Optimization Framework for Data Privacy

- Need to develop a multi-objective framework where different dimensions could be emphasized:
- **Maximize utility, given risk and costs constraints:** This would be suited for scenarios where limiting certain privacy risks are paramount.
- **Minimize privacy risks, given the utility and cost constraints:** In some scenarios significant degradation of the utility may not be allowed.

The parameter values of the protocol (e.g., ϵ in differential privacy) are chosen in such way to maximize privacy given utility constraints.
- **Minimize cost, given the utility and risk constraints:** May need to find the protocol parameter settings that may allow for the least expensive protocol that can satisfy the utility and risk constraints.

Research Challenges and Multidisciplinary approaches

- Data Confidentiality: For access control systems for Big Data we need approaches for:
 - *Merging large number of access control policies*. Policies (e.g., sticky policies) need to be integrated and conflicts solved.
 - *Automatically administering authorizations for big data and in particular for granting permissions*. Need techniques to automatically grant authorization, possibly based on the user digital identity, profile, and context, data contents and metadata.
 - *Enforcing access control policies on heterogeneous multi-media data*. Supporting content-based access control requires understanding the contents of protected data
 - *Enforcing access control policies in big data stores*. Need to efficiently inject access control policies into submitted jobs (e.g., MapReduce)
 - *Automatically designing, evolving, and managing access control policies*. When dealing with dynamic environments there is a need to automatically design and evolve policies

Research Challenges and Multidisciplinary approaches

- Privacy-preserving data correlation techniques Relevant issues that need to be investigated include:
 - *Support for both personal privacy and population privacy.*

Need to understand what is extracted from the data as this may lead to discrimination.

When dealing with security with privacy, it is important to understand the tradeoff of personal privacy and collective security.
 - *Efficient and scalable privacy-enhancing techniques.*

Need to parallelize the privacy enhancing techniques
 - *Usability of data privacy policies.*

Policies must be easily understood by users.
 - *Approaches for data services monetization.*

Instead of selling data, organizations owning datasets can sell privacy-preserving data analytics services based on these datasets.

Research Challenges and Multidisciplinary approaches

- *Data publication.*
Perhaps abandon the idea of publishing data and use data in a controlled environment
- *Privacy implication on data quality.*
Studies have shown that people lie especially in social networks
This results in a decrease in data quality that affects decisions
- *Risk models.*
(a) Big data can increase privacy risks; (b) Big data can reduce risks in many domains (e.g. national security).
Need models for these two types of risks
- *Data ownership.*
Perhaps replace “who is the owner of the data” with the concept of stakeholder(s).
Each stakeholder may have different possibly conflicting objectives and this can be modeled according to multi-objective optimization.

Research Challenges and Multidisciplinary approaches

- *Human factors.*

All solutions proposed for privacy and for security with privacy need to consider human involvement

- *Data lifecycle framework.*

A comprehensive approach to privacy for big data needs to be based on a systematic data lifecycle approach.

Relevant phases include:

Data acquisition – Need mechanisms and tools to prevent devices from acquiring data about other individuals

Data sharing – users need to be informed about data sharing/transfers to other parties.

Addressing the above challenges requires multidisciplinary research drawing from many different areas, including computer science and engineering, information systems, data science and statistics, risk models, economics, social sciences, political sciences, public policy, human factors, psychology, law.

Big Data Management and Analytics for Security

What is different about Big Data analytics (BDA) for Cyber security?

BDA for cyber security needs to deal with adaptive, malicious adversary

BDA for cyber security needs to operate in high volume and high noise environments

Need BDA tools to integrate data from hosts, networks, social media, bug reports, mobile devices, and internet of things to detect attacks.

What is the right BDA architecture for Cyber Security?:

Do we need different types of BDA system architectures for cyber security?

Should existing BDA system architectures be adapted for cyber security needs?

Need real time data analysis

Data Sharing for BDA for Cyber Security:

Cyber security data needs to be shared both inside the organization and among organizations

Need common languages and infrastructure to capture and share such cyber security data.

Big Data Management and Analytics for Security

- *BDA for Preventing Cyber Attacks:*

BDA systems that capture provenance information can potentially detect attacks before too much sensitive information is disclosed.

Need to build provenance-aware BDA systems

BDA tools for cyber security can potentially mine useful attacker information (motivations, capabilities, modus operandi)

- *BDA for Digital Forensics:*

BDA techniques could be used for digital forensics by combining or linking different data sources.

The main challenge is identifying the right data sources for digital forensics.

- *BDA for Understanding the Users of the Cyber Systems:*

BDA could be used to mine human behavior to learn how to improve the systems.

BDA techniques could be used to understand and build normal behavior models per user to find significant deviations

Summary and Directions

As massive amounts of data are being collected, stored, manipulated, merged, analyzed, and expunged, security and privacy concerns will explode.

Investigated the issues surrounding Big Data Security and Privacy as well as applying Big Data Management and Analytics for Cyber Security.

Need scalable and practical solutions

Need to develop technologies guided by policies to address security and privacy issues throughout the lifecycle of the data.

Need to understand not only the societal impact of data collection, use and analysis, also need to formulate appropriate laws and policies for such activities.

Need Intra and Inter-Agency Programs for Big Data Security and Privacy

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